

A Guide to the Colorado Academic Standards



Novice-Mid Proficiency Range

Working Together

To support families and teachers in realizing the goals of the Colorado Academic Standards, this guide provides an overview of the learning expectations for world languages and offers some possible learning experiences students may engage in as they progress through the novice-mid proficiency range of language development.

Why Standards?

Created by Coloradans for Colorado students, the Colorado Academic Standards provide a grade-by-grade road map to help ensure students are ultimately successful in college, careers, and life. The standards aim to improve what students learn and how they learn in ten content areas, emphasizing critical-thinking, creativity, problem solving, collaboration, and communication as important life skills in the 21st century.

World Languages for Elementary and Secondary Schools (K-12)

The world language standards create a roadmap to guide students in the process of learning a new language and understanding diverse cultural perspectives, as well as developing insights into their own language and culture. The standards reflect a performance-based discipline which emphasizes communication skills (speaking, listening, reading, and writing) in a new language to navigate real-life situations. Students use the newly acquired language while making connections with other academic disciplines and comparisons of cultural practices and products, preparing them to participate more fully in the global community and the international marketplace.


Where can I learn more?

- Contact your school district regarding local decisions related to standards, curriculum, resources, and instruction.
- Colorado Academic Standards Booklets: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/GradeLevelBooks.asp>
- Anna Huffman, Principal Standards Specialist at 720-626-2052, Huffman_a@cde.state.co.us



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At the end of this level,
students can.....



World Languages

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Language Proficiency Range Levels

Language proficiency refers to the degree of skill with which a person can use a language to understand, speak, read, write, and listen in real-life situations. Colorado's standards provide guidance for the introduction of a new language (novice-low) through the minimum proficiency range deemed postsecondary and workforce ready (intermediate-mid). Progression through levels of proficiency is influenced by program design (grade levels, competency-based programs, time for language instruction) and a student's individual rate of acquiring language.

World Languages Learning Expectations for Novice-Mid Proficiency Range

Interpersonal Mode (Speaking and Writing)

Communicate on very familiar topics using a variety of words and phrases that have been practiced and memorized.

Interpretive Mode (Listening, Reading, and Viewing)

Recognize familiar spoken words and phrases; recognize some letters and characters; comprehend learned or memorized words and phrases in texts.

Presentational Mode (Speaking and Writing)

Orally present personal information and very familiar topics using a variety of words, phrases and memorized expressions; write lists and memorized phrases on familiar topics.

Throughout the Novice-Mid Proficiency Range, you may find students... *(using the target language to...)*

- Write stories about activities or community events and share these stories and events with an audience.
- Learn math skills to convert American dollars to the currencies of other countries in order to understand prices of meals, tickets, clothing, etc.
- Use knowledge from health and science classes to compare healthy eating recommendations in the target cultures.
- Create a shopping list for a traditional meal prepared in the target culture.
- Ask for or give detailed directions to get from one place to another.